WI-111 Tilghman-Mitchell Farm Salisbury vicinity Private

One of the oldest dwellings standing southeast of Salisbury is located on the Tilghman-Mitchell farm. The single-story, hall/parlor frame house is dated 1844 with an inscribed brick on its west gable end chimney. Originally built as part of a three-sectioned stepped dwelling with a hyphen and kitchen stretching eastward, the hall/parlor main block has survived relatively intact with much of its Federal woodwork. The interior features exposed beaded joist ceilings, Federal chair rail and baseboard, as well as expertly crafted Federal mantels. A vertical board partition with an enclosed winder stair built against it, separates the two rooms. The second floor newel post has an unusual finish with chamfered corners terminating in lambs-tongue stops. Joining the old hall/parlor house on the property is a large early twentieth-century frame barn, a saddle notched log corn crib, and a Tilghman-Mitchell family cemetery.

Chain of title research for this farm traces its ownership back to William Dakes (Dykes), who conveyed part of his plantation known as "William's Choice" to his son-in-law John Tilghman (1762-1848) in 1785. According to the transfer, the 32-acre parcel of William's Choice was located "near where the said Dakes now liveth." In another conveyance dated in February 1785, Dakes transferred ownership of two religious books to his daughter Nancy, John's wife. With its location half-way between Snow Hill and Salisbury, the William's Choice land was situated for trade in either town. Although it is uncertain when John and Nancy Tilghman took up residency on William's Choice, they probably lived with or near her parents. At age 82, near the end of his long life, John Tilghman financed the construction of the extant hall/parlor dwelling. The farm passed to John and Nancy's son, William B. Tilghman (1762-1876), who resided in this house with his sizable family for the duration of his life. In the 1850 United States census, William B. Tilghman, aged 48, is grouped with is wife Mary, also 48, and their four children, Elijah J., William B., Louisa J., and Sally A. Tilghman. Two elderly women, Sally Nichols, aged 95, and Mary Townsend, aged 90, are listed in the household.

Following William B. Tilghman's death in 1876, the couple's second son and namesake, William B. Tilghman, purchased his siblings interests in the property in exchange for paying outstanding debts left

by their father. During the mid to late nineteenth century William B. Tilghman amassed a considerable estate with thriving commercial business interests in the City of Salisbury. He retained ownership of the family farm through the balance of the nineteenth century. Towards the end of his life he sold the farm, which then included 99 acres, to George William Mitchell for \$2,500 in 1905. Around the time of the sale, William B. Tilghman produced a small booklet depicting in sentimental verse and photographs the scenes of his youth at the old homestead farm.

Since George William Mitchell's acquisition of the Tilghman farm in 1905, the property has passed through five generations of family ownership.

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

historic	Tilghman Farm				
other	Mitchell Farm				
2. Location				·	_
street and number	4241 Snow Hill	Road		!	not for publication
_city, town	Salisbury			x vic	cinity
county	Wicomico				
3. Owner of P	roperty (giv	e names and mailin	g addresses of all owner	s)	
name	George W. Mitc	hell, Jr.			
street and number	4241 Snow Hill	Road		telephone 41	0-749-6076
city, town	Salisbury		state Maryland	zip code 21	804
Contribut	cation of Add				
Contribut Contribut Determin Determin Recorded	ing Resource in Natior ing Resource in Local ed Eligible for the Nati ed Ineligible for the Na d by HABS/HAER	Historic District onal Register/Maryla ational Register/Mary	and Register rland Register		
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Contribut Contribut Contribut Determin Recorder Historic S Other:	ing Resource in Natior ing Resource in Local ed Eligible for the Nati ed Ineligible for the Na by HABS/HAER Structure Report or Res	Historic District onal Register/Maryla ational Register/Mary search Report at MH	and Register rland Register	Resource Co	<b>Dunt</b> Noncontributing

7. Descri	ption
-----------	-------

#### **Condition**

	excellent	x_ deteri	orated
x	good	ruins	
	fair	altere	d

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Tilghman farm, also known as the Mitchell farm, is located at 4241 Snow Hill Road southeast of Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland. The farm complex includes two dwellings, a log corn crib, a frame barn, and a series of chicken houses situated at the end of a lane. A Tilghman-Mitchell family cemetery is located deeper in the farm on its eastern side.

The oldest structure on the property is a single-story, three-bay, hall/parlor frame dwelling that is currently used as a utilitarian storage building. The house faces north with the gable roof oriented on an east/west axis. Dated to 1844 by an inscribed brick, the house is supported on a low brick foundation, and the steeply pitched roof is covered with a layer of tin over wood shingles. Attached to the back of the house is a later shed roofed implement storage addition.

The northwest (main) elevation is an asymmetrical three-bay façade with an off-center entrance and flanking six-over-six sash windows. The wall retains pieces of sections of beaded weatherboards. The off-center entrance, framed by a small cyma curve backband, is fitted with a board and batten door. The adjacent windows are enhanced with a cyma curve backband surround as well. Finishing the base of the roof is a boxed cornice without bed or crown moldings.

The west gable end is dominated by an exterior, four-course common bond brick stack with corbelled shoulders and a single flue brick stack. Scratched into the surface of the chimney bricks are several nineteenth-century dates. The date 1844 is the oldest, and its centered and high location on the single flue stack indicate it was set when the chimney was built. Other dates inscribed on the chimney stack base include 1846, 1851, 1865, and several years during the early to mid twentieth century. The gable end retains fragments of beaded weatherboards, and the gable end is pierced by small two-over-two sash windows. The edge of the roof has a flush eave trimmed with a plain bargeboard.

The east gable end is dominated by an exterior four-course common bond brick stack as well, however, there are no dated bricks. The siding on the east end has been renewed to a large degree, and small two-over-two sash windows pierce the gable end. A gable end door left of the stack has been covered over.

The south (rear) elevation is covered by a modern shed roofed addition erected to house implements. The shed addition has served as a shelter to the south wall, which retains a large percentage of its beaded weatherboards. Six-over-six sash windows flank an off-center rear door.

The interior of the house follows a hall/parlor plan with the front door opening into the hall. The hall retains an exposed, beaded joist ceiling, a Federal mantel as well as Federal chair rail and a beaded baseboard molding. The mantel has a narrow molded firebox surround, and plan frieze block rise on each end to visually support a molded shelf. Stretching across the wall above the mantel is a beaded edge peg rail. Opposite the fireplace wall is an enclosed staircase built against a vertical board partition. The board partition has been partially dismantled. A board-and-batten door opens into the stair enclosure.

The parlor repeats many of the small interior finishes as the hall with an exposed joist ceiling, Federal chair rail and a Federal mantel fixed against the fireplace wall. The parlor mantel is slightly more elaborate than the hall mantel with reeded frieze blocks. A center frieze block is enhanced with an unusual pattern of diagonal and vertical reeding. A peg rail remains in this room across the fireplace wall, and it continues across the front and back wall as well. A board-and-batten door is located to the right of the fireplace.

The second floor is divided into two rooms with a vertical board partition separating the unequal sized spaces. At the top of the staircase is a short section of handrail distinguished by a chamfered edge newel post and a circular profile handrail supported by a series of square balusters. Piercing the board partition is a raised sixpanel door which was reused from an older structure. Ghosts of the HL hinge placements are evident on the front

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Name Tilghman-Mitchell Farm Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

surface. A pair of HL hinges remain on the inside surface along with a wood box lock. The second floor interior has a board ceiling of later date with circular sawn kerf marks.

Standing across from the single-story hall/parlor house is a large early twentieth-century gable front frame barn supported on a poured concrete foundation. The exterior is clad with novelty siding, and the steeply pitched roof is sheathed with asphalt shingles. The barn faces south with the gable roof oriented on a north/south axis. Piercing the south wall is a large sliding door, whereas six-over-six sash windows mark the second level. Fixed in the gable end is a hay mow door sheltered by an extension of the roof. The west side of the barn is marked by a series of stall doors and windows.

Located off the northwest corner of the barn is a single story, saddle notched log corn crib. The gable front log building rests on modern concrete block piers. Board door in the south end provide access to the crib.

The farm is also improved by a series of single-story chicken houses located north of the barn. West of the outbuilding complex is a two-story, ell-shaped frame farmhouse dating from the early twentieth century. The farmhouse has been extensively remodeled.

8. Signific	cance			Inventory No. WI-111
Period	Areas of Significance	Check and	justify below	
1600-1699 1700-1799 x 1800-1899 1900-1999 2000-	agriculture archeology x architecture art commerce communications community planning conservation	<ul> <li>economics</li> <li>education</li> <li>engineering</li> <li>entertainment/</li> <li>recreation</li> <li>ethnic heritage</li> <li>exploration/</li> <li>settlement</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>health/medicine</li> <li>industry</li> <li>invention</li> <li>landscape architecture</li> <li>law</li> <li>literature</li> <li>mantime history</li> <li>military</li> </ul>	performing arts philosophy politics/government religion science social history transportation other:
Specific dates			Architect/Builder	
Construction of	lates 1844			
Evaluation for:	_National Register		Maryland Register	x not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

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Chain of title research for this farm traces its ownership back to William Dakes (Dykes), who conveyed part of his plantation known as "William's Choice" to his son-in-law John Tilghman (1762-1848) in 1785. According to the transfer, the 32-acre parcel of William's Choice was located "near where the said Dakes now liveth." In another conveyance dated in February 1785, Dakes transferred ownership of two valuable books to his daughter Nancy, John's wife. With its location half-way between Snow Hill and Salisbury, the William's Choice land was situated for trade with either town. Although it is uncertain when John and Nancy Tilghman took up residency on William's Choice, they probably lived with or near her parents. At age 82, near the end of his long life, John Tilghman financed the construction of the extant hall/parlor house frame dwelling. The farm passed to John and Nancy's son, William B. Tilghman (1802-1876), who resided in this house with his sizable family for the duration of his life. In the 1850 United States census, William B. Tilghman, aged 48, is grouped with his wife, Mary, also 48, and their four children, Elijah J., William B., Louisa J., and Sally A. Tilghman. Two other women, Sally Nichols, aged 95, and Mary Townsend, aged 90, are listed in the household.<sup>3</sup>

Following Willilam B. Tilghman's death in 1876, the couple's second son and namesake, William B. Tilghman, purchased his siblings interest in the property in exchange for paying outstanding debts left by their father. During the mid to late nineteenth century William B. Tilghman amassed a considerable estate with thriving commercial interests in the city of Salisbury. He retained ownership of the family farm through the balance of the nineteenth century. Towards the end of his life he sold the property, which then included 99 acres

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Worcester County Land Record, L/69, 11 January 1785, Worcester County Courthouse.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Worcester County Land Record, L/70, 1 February 1785, Worcester County Courthouse.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Seventh Census of the United States, 1850, Population Schedule transcribed by Ruth T. Dryden, p. 153.

Wicomico County Land Record, SPT 3/122, 22 August 1878, Wicomico County Courthouse.

Inventory No. WI-111

Name Tilghman-Mitchell Farm Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

to George William Mitchell for \$2,500 in 1905.<sup>5</sup> Around the time of the sale, William B. Tilghman produced a small booklet depicting in sentimental verse and photographs the scenes of his youth at the old homestead farm.<sup>6</sup> Since George William Mitchell's acquisition of the farm in 1905, the property has passed through five generations of family ownership.

<sup>5</sup> Wicomico County Land Record, EAT 47/103, 18 July 1905, Wicomico County Courthouse.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> William B. Tilghman, "The Old Homestead," c. 1905, privately printed, no date. Collection of Robin English.

Inventory No. WI-111

Name Tilghman-Mitchell Farm Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

Tilghman-Mitchell Farm 4241 Snow Hill Road Salisbury vicinity, Wicomico County, Maryland Map 59, Parcel 25

1531/90

Marie J. Mitchell

to

12/9/1994

Joan L. Mitchell

George W. Mitchell, Jr. Richard W. Mitchell

971/164

George W. Mitchell

Marie J. Mitchell

to

3/10/1982

George W. Mitchell

Marie J. Mitchell

JWTS 546/226

Preston N. Mitchell

Mary E. Mitchell

to

6/19/1962

George W. Mitchell

Marie J. Mitchell

Plat recorded JWTS 546/229

Inventory No. WI-111

Name Tilghman-Mitchell Farm Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 3

Tilghman-Mitchell Farm Chain of title continued

Martha J. Coulbourn (died intestate)

to, son

Preston N. Mitchell

IDT 155/131 William W. Mitchell, et al. (Mary Mitchell, Rita M. Matthews,

John C. Matthews)

to

3/6/1928 Martha J. Coulbourn

99.65 acres (which said property, upon the death of the said George William Mitchell, intestate, descended unto William W. Mitchell, Rita M. Matthews,

and Martha J. Coulbourn, children)

EAT 47/103 William B. Tilghman, Sr. et al.

to

7/18/1905 George William Mitchell

\$2,500 99.65 acres

### Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Name Tilghman-Mitchell Farm Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 4

Tilghman-Mitchell Farm Chain of title continued

SPT 3/122

Elijah J. Tilghman and Mary V. Tilghman, Wicomico Co. and

Joseph L. Staton and Louisa J. Staton, Worcester Co.

to

8/22/1878

William B. Tilghman, Sr.

Whereas a certain William B. Tilghman, Sr. late of Wicomico County, Deceased, died seized and possessed of certain real estate lying in said County and heretofore described leaving the said Louisa J. Staton, Elijah J. Tilghman, and a certain William B. Tilghman his children and only heirs at law....William B. Tilghman, son of said deceased, agrees to take said real estate and pay all the indebtedness of said deceased at the time of his death

225 acres...mentions boundary reference called "King's Ale"

Seventh Census of the United States, Population Schedule for Worcester County, transcribed by Ruth T. Dryden, p. 153.

William B. Tilghman, farmer, 48 (born March 26, 1802) son of John and Nancy Dykes Tilghman. (John Tilghman was born May 20, 1762, in Somerset County, and died in 1848 in Worcester County)

Mary, 48
Elijah J., 20
William B., 10
Louisa J., 7
Sally A., 5
Sally Nicholls, 95
Mary Townsend, 90

Inventory No. WI-111

Name Tilghman-Mitchell Farm Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 5

Tilghman-Mitchell Farm Chain of title continued

Eighth Census of the United States, Population Schedule for Worcester County, transcribed by John C. Barnes, p. 234.

William B. Tilghman, 58, M, farmer, Value of Real Estate, \$1800, Value of Personal Property, \$400 Mary Tilghman, 58, F

Elijah J., 32, M

Mary V., 24

Sally A., 2

Elizabeth, 1

**Worcester County** 

Land Record

Priscilla Bratten and Stewart Brussels

to

4/6/1831

William B. Tilghman "King's Ale" 125 acres

Henry White

to

7/20/1822

John Tilghman

\$97 William's Choice...formerly surveyed for William Dikes... the metes and bounds mentions it being a corner tree of said John

Tilghman's land 97 acres

Inventory No. WI-111

Name Tilghman-Mitchell Farm Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 6

Tilghman-Mitchell Farm Chain of title continued

Worcester County Land Record L/69

William Dakes

to

1/11/1785

John Tilghman

L5 part of William's Choice...near where the said Dakes now

liveth....32 acres

Worcester County Land Record

L/70

William Dakes (Dykes) of Worcester County

to, daughter

2/1/1785

Nancy Tilghman, wife of John Tilghman

# 9. Bibliographical References

WI-111

Tilghman Family Collection, held by Robin English, Salisbury, Maryland.

Wicomico County Land Records, various volumes.

Worcester County Land Records, various volumes, Worcester County Courthouse.

### 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	120.23 acres		
Acreage of historical setting	120.23 acres		
Quadrangle name		Quadrangle scale:	1:24,000

#### Verbal boundary description and justification

The metes and bounds of this property are coincidental with the current boundary of the lot.

### 11. Form Prepared by

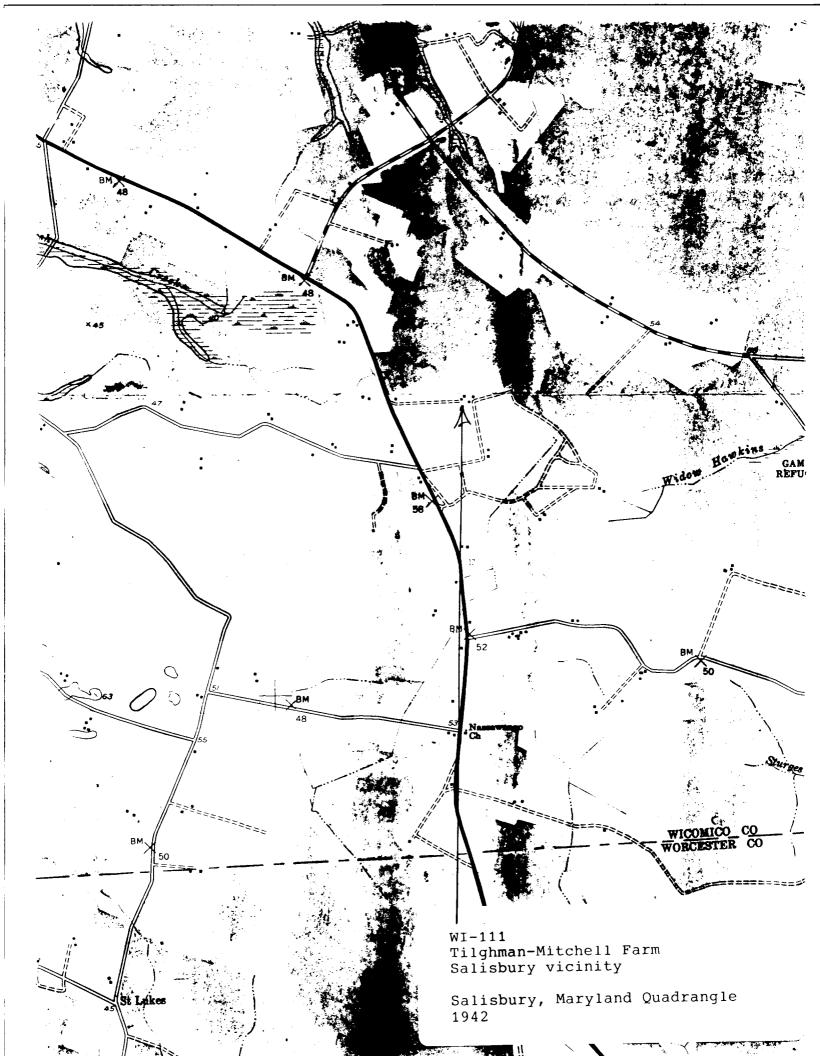
name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Private Consultant	date	10/10/2001
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

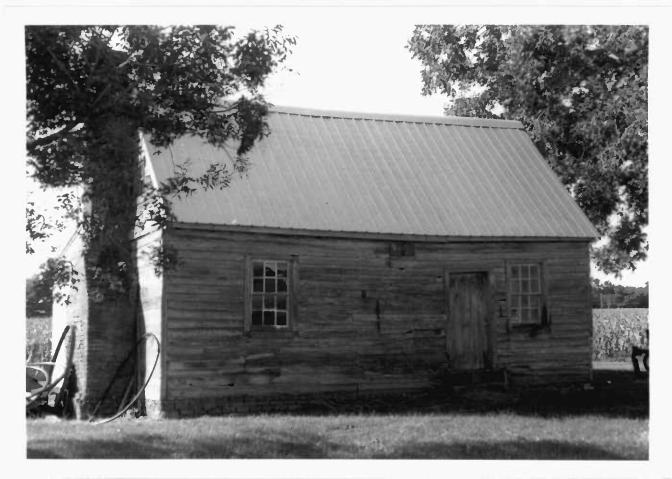
The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

retum to:

Maryland Historical Trust DHCD/DHCP 100 Community Place Crownsville, MD 21032-2023 410-514-7600





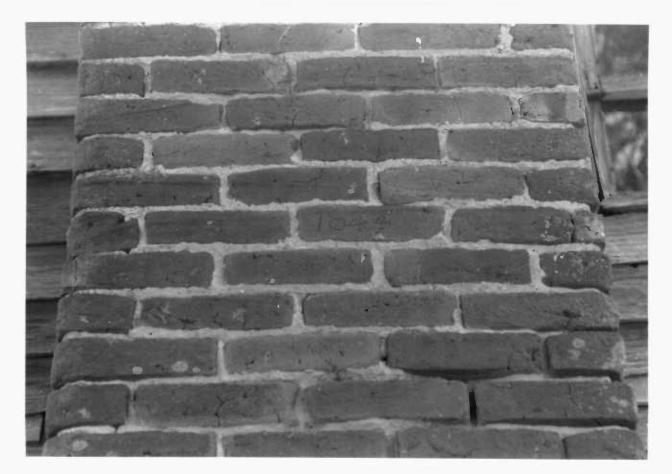
N1-171 TIEBRERON MICHELL FORMAN SANSBURY VIE NOVE - 2 1 -2 1. Mornores Elevation 10/01 PARIS TOURIS PARTER - ME. The form the same of the same 1 0/ 13



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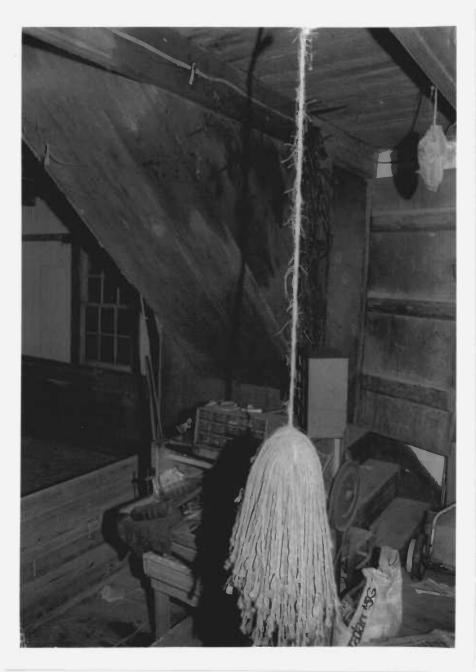
0012111 TICGHAMA MALLAGE FARE I And Cherry very Vicery 3 12 3 1844 DAISTAL IN NONTENES 10/01, PAL TOURS, PITOTICE NEG. (M). HOURERAN FALLS 4 11/3



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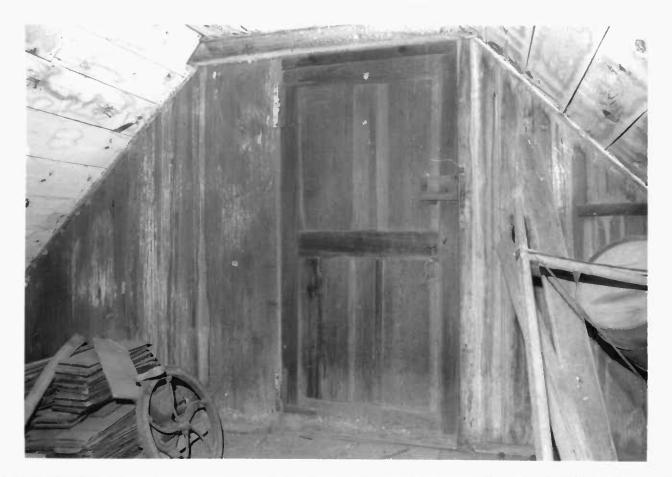
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TILGIAMEN - MITTIE FAREN SALISBURY OIL MILONICO EN NO SELONA FLOOR I HANKAL 10/01, Pan Toward PHOTOGRAPHER Nou. IND. HISTORIUM TRUST 8 01 13



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W1-111 TILGHANN PINE 12 SAISBURG NIE WILLIAM EN MAR. SELOND PLICE PARTON - REINE FARE OF RASSING MARE DUSIN 10/01 PANTOURE PITOTICE With And the south as The 10 02 13



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W/1-111 Tregues Adverse for SALISPINA VIL, WILLIAM BELL CORN CRIPS - STORMEN STEV 10101, Pare Toward Pretion Mis / NO HASTINEST THE 13 11 13

This three bay one-story frame house rests on a brick foundation. Two exposed (exterior) brick chimneys appear in the gable ends of the house. The dates 1844 and 1851 are etched in two bricks. Two windows in the front facade have six over six lights, and at least one small four-light window appears in the attic beside the chimney in one gable end. The house most likely has a hall and parlor plan, and the batten door opens into one of these rooms. A lean-to addition on the back of the building is of undetermined date. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles on top of the wood. The house is covered with clapboard siding which appears to have been nailed on with cut nails (see detail).

A rounded-log corn crib or corn house is on the property, which is currently supported by concrete blocks. It appears to have its original wooden shingles on the roof. The building is 8 logs high.



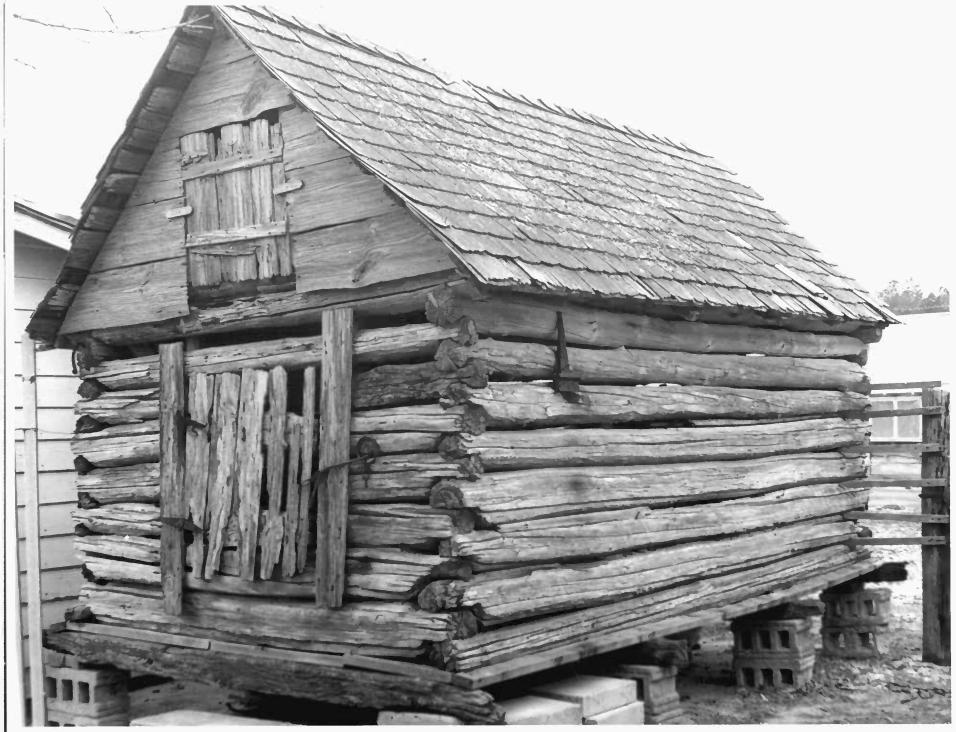
Wi-111 Colonel William B. Tilghman House



Colonel William B. Tilghman House

C. Y. WILDTON DRIVE 323 DILLEUNI, MD.

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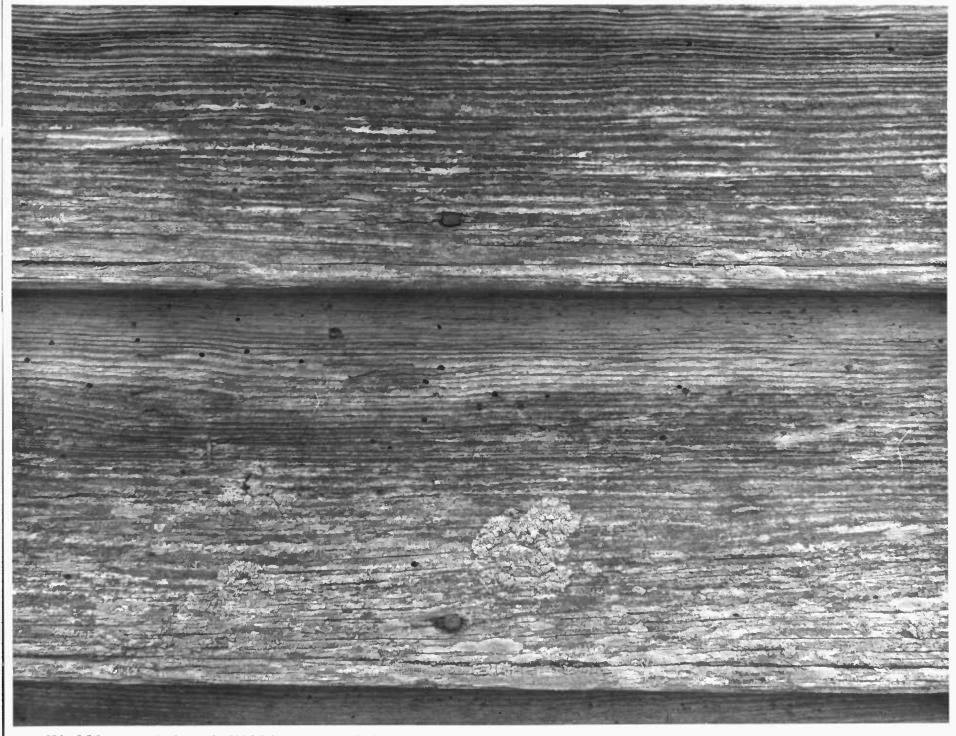
Wi-111 Log Barn (Tilghman)

PHOTO =

O. V. WOOTEN

323 BRESSHARE MID

SALISBURY, MID



Wi-111 Colonel William B. Tilghman House

323 BEZZINE M.D.